



TERMS TO KNOW

Aggregated or collective data

Data combined from multiple assessments and reported in a summary form that provides information about groups rather than individuals.

Anecdotal Records

Written notes that include key information about what children say or do during everyday activities.

Assessment

The process of observing, gathering, and recording information for the purpose of making evaluative decisions.

Assessment-Instructional Cycle

The ongoing process of observing children during everyday instructional activities, keeping track of progress by documenting those observations, reaching an understanding of the information that has been gathered, and implementing adjustments to instruction.

Authentic activities

Real-life tasks that allow observation of what children are able to do in natural contexts.

Checklists

List of behaviors arranged in a logical order used to collect information on specific behaviors a child is able to perform.

Data

Information or facts gathered through the processes of observation and documentation.

Data Analysis

Detailed investigation of data with the goal of discovering useful information to support decision making.

Documentation

Detailed records collected to describe and understand a child's learning process.

Domains

Overarching areas of child development and early learning into which the Head Start Framework is organized.

Interpretation

An explanation of something that is not immediately obvious.

Monitoring

The systematic collection of information that provides feedback on a child's progress overtime.

Ongoing Child Assessment

Continuing observation and documentation teachers complete to determine whether teaching practices need to be adapted to better meet children's needs.

Portfolio

A purposeful collection of children's work used to document a child's learning over time.

Trend

A general direction in which something tends to move

Work Samples

Examples or photos of products children have created.

